

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCEN-02 AEC-11 INT-08 EB-11

COME-00 SS-20 SPC-03 NSF-04 EPA-04 CEQ-02 TRSE-00

OMB-01 *DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /176 W
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P R 101828Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9652

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E. O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, OVIP, ENRG, GW

SUBJECT: FRG ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM -
VISIT TO US BY TECHNOLOGY MINISTER EHMKE

REF: A. BONN 15323

B. LETTER MCCLELLAND-RICHMOND (SCI) OCTOBER 16,
1973

1. SUMMARY. DURING P*ESS CONFERENCE ABOUT NEW GERMAN
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, PROFESSOR HORST
EHMKE, MINISTER FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY, ANNOUNCED
PLANNED VISIT TO US IN EARLY MARCH FOR CONSULTATIONS
ABOUT COOPERATION IN APPROPRIATE PROJECTS. NEW ENERGY
R&D PROGRAMS WILL TOTAL DM L.5 BILLION, INCLUDING STATE
AND INDUSTRIAL FUNDS. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 9.
END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTER EHMKE OUTLINED FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM (1974-
1977) WITH ESTIMATED TOTAL BUDGET OF DM L.5 BILLION
(ROUGHLY \$535 MILLION) WHICH REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY
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FOUR-FOLD INCREASE IN PREVIOUSLY PLANNED EXPENDITURES.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOCATE DM 800 MILLION, LAND (STATE) NORTH-RHEIN WESTPHALIA IS EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE DM 150 MILLION AND OTHER LAENDER AND INDUSTRY WILL MAKE UP BALANCE.

3. PROGRAM WILL EMPHASIZE FIVE AREAS:

- A. COAL GASIFICATION AND LIQUEFACTION (DM 616 MILLION)
- B. MINING TECHNOLOGY (DM 330 MILLION)
- C. TECHNOLOGY FOR DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PETROLEUM DEPOSITS (DM 174 MILLION)
- D. ENERGY CONVERSION, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE (DM 270 MILLION)
- E. CONSERVATION AND IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF ENERGY (DM 56 MILLION)

4. EHMKE EXPECTS NO SHORT-TERM RESULTS BUT, WHEN PRESSED, RELUCTANTLY ESTIMATED PETROLEUM SAVINGS OF 10-15 PERCENT IN 5-10 YEARS BY REPLACING CRUDE OIL WITH PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM COAL.

5. EHMKE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WANTS TO COORDINATE HIS PROGRAM WITH BOTH EUROPEAN PARTNERS AND US. HE PLANS TO VISIT US IN EARLY MARCH FOR THIS PURPOSE AND TO DISCUSS SUITABLE PROJECTS FOR COOPERATION.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WILL SUPPLEMENT FRG NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM. THE THIRD VERSION OF "FOURTH NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM" FOR 1973-1976 IS IN FINAL STAGE OF PREPARATION. FUNDS WILL TOTAL DM 6.127 BILLION, ROUGHLY HALF TO ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR PROJECTS, THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE, AND REACTOR SAFETY R&D. BY 1985, ABOUT 15 PERCENT OF TOTAL ELECTRICAL ENERGY

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WILL BE SUPPLIED BY NUCLEAR ENERGY.

7. ACCORDING TO TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY OFFICIALS, EHMKE PLANS VISIT US FROM MARCH 2-8. TECHMIN REPS ASSUME EHMKE WILL BE ABLE SIGN AT LEAST TWO AGREEMENTS FOR US-FRG SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, I.E. AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN USAEC AND TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY IN FIELDS OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND REACTOR SAFETY R&D. THEY PLAN TO DISCUSS OTHER POSSIBLE AREAS FOR COOPERATION BOTH IN BONN WITH US AND THROUGH FRG EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

8. DR. SCHMIDT-KUESTER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENERGY RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY, WILL PROBABLY VISIT US IN FEBRUARY PERSONALLY TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE US-FRG COOPERATION IN ENERGY R&D AND TO MAKE FINAL PREPARATIONS TO INSURE SUCCESS OF MINISTER EHMKE'S VISIT. HTHPS PLANNED TRIP REPLACES EARLIER VISIT PLANNED BY DR. MENDEN WHICH WAS CANCELLED PENDING REORGANIZATION OF TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY FOR GREATER EMPHASIS ON ENERGY AND OTHER S&T PROBLEMS RELEVANT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEEDS OF SOCIETY (SEE BONN 12114).

9. ACTION REQUESTED. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE EMBASSY STRONGLY ENDORSED VISIT BY DR. MENDEN AS EFFECTIVE INITIAL STEP TOWARD MEANINGFUL US-FRG COOPERATION IN ENERGY R&D. WE REITERATE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO PREPARATORY VISIT BY DR. SCHMIDT-KUESTER AND SUBSEQUENT VISIT BY MINISTER EHMKE. EMBASSY S&T COUNSELOR HAS APPOINTMENTS NEXT WEEK WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO BEGIN PLANNING THESE VISITS FROM THIS END. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP US VIEWS ABOUT MOST FRUITFUL AREAS FOR US-FRG COOPERATION IN ENERGY R&D.

HILLENBRAND

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